

China, but the discovery at Fontéchevade (Charente) in 1947 by Mlle G. Henri-Martin of the Tayacian calotte with *sapiens*-like features, yet antecedent to Neanderthal Man, was made too late for inclusion.* This is particularly regrettable from Professor Hooton's point of view, since he has always been a powerful advocate of the venerable age of members of our own species.

In Part V Professor Hooton outlines the principles of genetics and then treats in detail the physical and physiological factors of race (including blood groups), and racial pathology, classification and history, concluding with some sane and temperate remarks on miscegenation and "racial quality." It is unlikely that all or most of the faculty will see eye-to-eye with him in his taxonomic approach, especially as regards sorting criteria, though this is not a matter of moment. His recognition of an "Arctic" group (or subrace in the terminology he uses), embracing the Eskimo and certain peoples in north-eastern Siberia, as opposed to the assignment of a unique position among the Mongoliforms to the Eskimo, is impressive, but some British anthropologists may feel rather chary of accepting the validity of a distinct "Keltic" subrace, despite the author's admission that the term is a misnomer. This is not to depreciate the immense contribution that Harvard has made to the telling of the rough island story in the persons of Professor Hooton himself and his eminent pupils, Coon, Dupertuis and Howells.

Part VI is largely devoted to an exposition of the Sheldon system of somatotyping, which up to the present has not enjoyed much favour in Great Britain. It also contains a valuable section on the constitutional studies of Draper, with special reference to body build and disease. The appendix to the book is a cheering sign that at least one of the foremost American authorities has remembered Galton and not succumbed to the prevalent fashion in the United States of decrying the value of

anthropometry, though a fuller treatment of the elementary statistics used in the analysis of anthropometric data would have been desirable.

The revised *Up from the Ape* is well illustrated by photographs of subhuman primates and of racial types, but some of the drawings, particularly those of the skull of the Neanderthal Man from La Chapelle-aux-Saints on page 323 and of the Broken Hill (Rhodesian) cranium on page 341, could be replaced with advantage in a subsequent edition.

J. C. TREVOR.

PSYCHOSOCIAL MEDICINE

Halliday, James L. *Psychosocial Medicine: A Study of the Sick Society.* London, 1948. William Heinemann. Pp. 278. Price 17s. 6d.

DR. J. L. HALLIDAY has been one of the most prominent of those in this country who have insisted on the importance of emotional disturbances in causing supposedly physical disease. He here carries this point of view regarding individuals into the larger field of society as a whole. He holds that the psychological and social needs of our society are not satisfied, and that it is therefore a sick society, the study and treatment of which may properly be called psychosocial medicine. It is not always clear how Dr. Halliday has determined what should be regarded as the symptoms of social disintegration, or of the preceding stage in the process which he calls social disequilibrium. Thus he holds that a declining birth-rate is a sign of declining psychological health in the nation; he classes together the infertility thus indicated, the rising rate of psychosomatic affections and a rising suicide rate as "manifestations of a progressive frustration of the individual in response to an increasing noxious pressure being exerted by the communal environment regarded psychologically."

An interesting chapter of the book examines the mining community "which during the twentieth century became an

* The latest description of this specimen has been given by Professor Henri V. Vallois in *Comptes rendus des séances de l'Académie des Sciences*, 228, pp. 598-600, 1949.

increasingly sick society, readily recognizable as such by the rapid deterioration of its economic and industrial indices and confirmed by the biological indices." Among the "economic and industrial indices" are included poor working output, absenteeism, and high sickness rates as expressions of neurosis, while repeated strikes and "the rise of leadership for destruction" are considered to be political expressions of social fragmentation. The birth-rate and the incidence of psychosomatic affections make up the "biological indices." "Cultural indices" include the decline of religious faith, and mass increase in gambling and attendance at games. Among the cultural indices are also listed "increasing intrusions of manifestations of the primitive and visceral including sex," and "increasing intellectualism and obsessional planning." In reading Halliday's ensuing discussion of these cultural indices in terms of art and religion it is difficult to avoid the conclusion that he regards departure from the æsthetic and religious standards in which he believes as tantamount to decadence.

The first part of the book is concerned with the problem of causation, the second with psychosomatic affections and the third with the sick society. Although there is not a little repetition, Dr. Halliday's fervour and zeal for reform, i.e. social therapeutics, carry the reader forwards, even when he is critical of the argument. Dr. Halliday has the gift also of translating into simple language the psychoanalytic concepts which he has found so helpful.

H. L.

MARRIAGE GUIDANCE

Mace, David R. *Marriage Counseling*. London, 1948. J. and A. Churchill. Pp. 167. Price 8s.

IN February 1947 the Denning Committee urged the Government to make grants-in-aid to reputable bodies undertaking marriage guidance work. The Home Secretary thereupon set up a Departmental Committee under the chairmanship of Sir Sidney Harris

to consider how the grants should be administered and how a nation-wide Marriage Guidance Service should be developed. This latter committee has now completed its deliberations and a report is about to be published.

The publication of this book is therefore timely as it enables the general reader to fill in part of the background of the comparatively recent development of applied sociology usually referred to as marriage guidance. In his charmingly personal preface Dr. Mace disarms criticisms that would otherwise have to be made since he strictly delimits the scope to that of a fairly full account of the remedial work of the Marriage Guidance Council; and since he wrote the manuscript in the course of outward and return Atlantic voyages one understands the absence of formal references to other literature.

The chapters are logically arranged, since the first one shows the need for the service; subsequently a centre and its staffing are described together with the sketching-in of an imaginary yet typical case history; and finally the methods of selecting and of training counsellors are given. Chapters 8 and 10 summarize cogently the diagnosis and treatment of marital disharmony and a useful classification of both is given. Thus a differentiation between two stages of disharmony is made: the early stage when the couple become aware of tension (which they try to lessen) and a later chronic stage (into which the former passes if unresolved) in which the will to co-operate has gone and one or the other no longer wishes to heal the breach. Treatment is divided into catharsis, elucidation and mediation, and it is not usually complete until all three stages have been reached: Mace rightly deplores the activities of the well-meaning friend who listens sympathetically to the outpourings at the cathartic stage but does not realize that to attempt to state the case is not sufficient to release the tension.

It is unfortunate in a book describing an art whose exponents must be able to exercise the highest degree of detachment that subjective expressions of opinion should so often be made. For example, is it reasonable